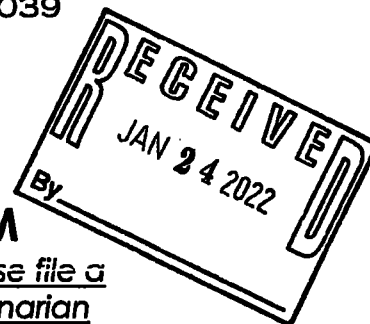


ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

1740 W. ADAMS ST., SUITE 4600, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

PHONE (602) 364-1PET (1738) FAX (602) 364-1039

VETBOARD.AZ.GOV



COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION FORM

If there is an issue with more than one veterinarian please file a separate Complaint Investigation Form for each veterinarian

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: Jan. 24, 2022 Case Number: 22-83

A. THIS COMPLAINT IS FILED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING:

Name of Veterinarian/CVT: Joanna Norman, DVM, DACVO

Premise Name: Eye Care for Animals

Premise Address: 13034 Rancho Sante Fe Blvd

City: Avondale State: AZ Zip Code: 85392

Telephone: 623-672-3937

B. INFORMATION REGARDING THE INDIVIDUAL FILING COMPLAINT*:

Name: Christine Valle

Address: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED] State: [REDACTED] Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Home Telephone: [REDACTED] Cell Telephone: [REDACTED]

***STATE LAW REQUIRES WE HAVE TO DISCLOSE YOUR NAME UNLESS WE CAN SHOW THAT DISCLOSURE WILL RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL HARM TO YOU, SOMEONE ELSE OR THE PUBLIC PER A.R.S. § 41-1010. IF YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SUBSTANTIAL HARM WILL RESULT IN DISCLOSURE OF YOUR NAME PLEASE PROVIDE COPIES OF RESTRAINING ORDERS OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.**

C. PATIENT INFORMATION (1):

Name: Toby

Breed/Species: Australian Shepherd

Age: @ death 9 months Sex: M Color: Blue Merle

PATIENT INFORMATION (2):

Name: _____

Breed/Species: _____

Age: _____ Sex: _____ Color: _____

D. VETERINARIANS WHO HAVE PROVIDED CARE TO THIS PET FOR THIS ISSUE:

Please provide the name, address and phone number for each veterinarian.

Dr. Joanna Norman, 13034 Rancho Santa Fe Blvd, Avondale, AZ 85372
623-872-3937

Dr. Scott Jacobs, 8807 Grosmont Blvd, La Mesa, CA 91942. 619-463-6604

E. WITNESS INFORMATION:

Please provide the name, address and phone number of each witness that has direct knowledge regarding this case.

Julie Humeston, Breeder

Erika Werne, CAER Program Manager, Orthopedic Foundation for Animals

Attestation of Person Requesting Investigation

By signing this form, I declare that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Further, I authorize the release of any and all medical records or information necessary to complete the investigation of this case.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

F. ALLEGATIONS and/or CONCERNS:

Please provide all information that you feel is relevant to the complaint. This portion must be either typewritten or clearly printed in ink.

Veterinary Complaint: Dr. Joanna Norman, DVM, DACVO, Eye Care for Animals, Avondale, AZ

This is chronological summary of events.

1. Toby born on March 9 2021.
2. Eyes examined by Dr. Joanna Norman, Eye Care for Animals, on April 29, 2021. Exam copy included. The exam documents the eye exam performed by Dr. Joanna Norman, DVM, DACVO, on an Australian Shepherd, Blue Merle Male puppy, April 21, 2021. The exam indicates an 'iris to iris persistent pupillary membranes'.
 - i. OFA definition of PPM: Persistent pupillary membranes (PPM): persistent blood vessel remnants in the anterior chamber which fail to regress normally by 3 months of age. These strands arise from the iris collaret and may bridge from iris to iris, iris to lens, iris to cornea or form sheets of tissue in the anterior chamber.
3. The breeder, Julie Humeston, of Heart Fire Australian Shepherds, gave me a copy of Dr. Norman's exam to satisfy the sales contract guarantee of the puppy's' vision.
4. Adopted Toby on June 8, 2021. Sales contract copy included.
5. On the OFA website, it is recommended that follow-ups are made to see if this condition (PPM) has resolved.
No such recommendation was noted on the form by Dr. Norman.
6. November 16, 2021 Toby was examined at Eye Care for Animals by Dr. Francesca Venturi in San Diego, CA, via referral from Dr. Scott Jacobs, my regular vet. Entire letter included.
7. Dr Venturi's Diagnosis:
"Toby presented today for evaluation of a history of suspected congenital blindness. No menace response or dazzle reflex is present today. There is a very sluggish light reflex in both eyes. Early catamctous changes are noted OU and on funduscopic examination there was complete retinal dialysis/detachment in both eyes. The changes I am seeing are most likely congenital with a lack of congenital nonattachment of the retina with a lack of other predisposing factors such as trauma, etc. Retinal reattachment surge¹Y would not be an option for Toby due to the history of having poor vision for quite a while. Increased cataract development may need topical anti-inflammatory drops to avoid the risk of glaucoma. Recheck will be in six months."
At this point, I had not received any factual explanation of what this eye exam should reveal. I had written Eye Care for Animals Corporate, with copies to both Dr. Norman and Dr. Venturi asking many questions regarding the eye exam. I received no response. I contacted OFA directly via email, whose responses are copied below.

8. January 4, 2022 @ 8 am

The point of this test (Companion Animal Eye Registry or CAER) is to determine the health of the dog's eyes, and to determine whether or not the dog can see.

Erika Werne
CAER Program Manager
Orthopedic Foundation for Animals
[REDACTED]



Tracy Riendeau <tracy.riendeau@vetboard.az.gov>

Vet Complaint

christine valle
To: tracy.riendeau@vetboard.az.gov

Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 11:20 AM

My complaint includes attachments and was too long to fit the form. So here it is. Please advise me if there is a way to submit electronically on the website. If you want me to mail a copy, please let me know.

Here is the full written complaint. It got cut off.

Veterinary Complaint: Dr. Joanna Norman, DVM, DACVO, Eye Care for Animals, Avondale, AZ

This is chronological summary of events.

1. Toby born on March 9 2021.
2. Eyes examined by Dr. Joanna Norman, Eye Care for Animals, on April 29, 2021. Exam copy included. The exam documents the eye exam performed by Dr. Joanna Norman, DVM, DACVO, on an Australian Shepherd, Blue Merle Male puppy, April 21, 2021. The exam indicates an 'iris to iris persistent pupillary membranes'.

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cataract development may need topical anti-inflammatory drops to avoid the risk of glaucoma. Recheck will be in six months."

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8. January 4, 2022 @ 8 am

The point of this test (Companion Animal Eye Registry or CAER) is to determine the health of the dog's eyes, and to determine whether or not the dog can see.

Erika Werne

CAER Program Manager

Orthopedic Foundation for Animals

573-442-0418 x234



9. January 4, 2022 @ 8:58 am

So my pup's blindness should have been detected by this test?

Sent from my iPad

(Christine Valle)

10. January 4, 2022 @ 902 am

The ophthalmologist would have detected the detached retinas.

Erika Werne

CAER Program Manager

Orthopedic Foundation for Animals

573-442-0418 x234



Erika Werne's statement indicates Dr. Norman should have seen and noted Toby's detached retinas, and total blindness. She did not. Why?

Had she done so, I am confident Julie Humeston, the breeder, would not have sold him. She and I have talked many times. She has been breeding dogs for forty years. She explained that Toby's exam should have had a notation regarding a follow-up to the PPM condition based upon her past experience.

Toby ran into things regularly. Mostly it would result in a temporary limp. He broke a ½ inch hose riser pipe by running into it with his head. After the total blindness diagnosis, I feared he would run into something and break his neck. Toby was euthanized on December 7, 2021.

My complaint is Dr. Norman's lack of notation or recommendations for follow-up exams for Toby. Her signature lists both the DVM and DACVO designations after her name. It is my belief she is not in compliance the DACVO.

I wish for my complaint to be fully investigated. I believe Dr. Norman should be issued a warning or letter of discipline. Your investigation results should be forwarded onto the DACVO for review of Dr. Norman's license. Whatever your findings, I want a copy of the correspondence.

Dr. Norman's action in my case is one aspect of this complaint. Probably more disturbing is the continued acquisition of Veterinary Clinics by Corporate interests.

I wrote to the corporate headquarters for Eye Care for Animals and received no response. I did more research and it may be due to Eye Care for Animals being acquired by Pathways to Animals, a national corporation, who based on their website, is acquiring many other veterinary clinics.

Given my experience with VCA, anecdotal stories about Banfield and VCA, I recommend your review your regulatory veterinary practices and how you would apply your oversight to Corporate Vet Clinics.

My own experience with VCA Cardiology here in San Diego was pretty disgusting. My Aussie had lymphoma. I learned from the vet who screamed it at me via the phone. She then proceeded to perform a standard cardio exam on him and charge me \$800. Corporate policy?

I got my money back.

I have had the worst experiences in the past year with vets, who work for Corporations, then I have in my previous sixty years. Maybe I have been lucky. But I have never before had the concern that my furry kids will not receive the best application of my vets' experience and knowledge. Now I feel that corporate policy may be more important than the care of my furry kids. I now just pray my vet never retires.

Consumers recourse from these corporate monoliths which do not appear to have our pets' best interests at heart.

Please contact me if anything needs clarification or more documentation.

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB • FOUNDED 1884

LITTER CERTIFICATE

BREEDER ~ JULIE HUMESTON & STEVE HUMESTON
WHELP DATE ~ MARCH 9, 2021
AKC LITTER NUMBER ~ DN658976
BREED ~ AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD
TOTAL NUMBER IN LITTER ~ 5

Sire HEARTFIRE'S MAD ABOUT MAX
DN43731806 (04-18)



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

Dam HEARTFIRE'S SECRET OF THE GODS
DN37918108 (08-19)

EMINENCE OF THE MIGHTY CROWN
DN32832001 (04-14)

HEART FIRE BREAKING NEWS
DN27981710 (09-14)

HEARTFIRE'S MARK OF EXCELLENCE
DN23015604 (06-10)

HEARTFIRE'S JOYOUS PANDEMONIUM
DN26892703 (02-14)

WINDYPINE AUTUMN STORM
DN14971407 (07-09)

NORTHBAY'S INCOGNITO
DN19381102

HEARTFIRE'S MARK OF EXCELLENCE
DN23015604 (06-10)

HEARTFIRES SWEET CAROLINE
DN06687204 (10-07)

OLD WEST LEGEND OF ROSEWOOD
DL81129603 (09-01)

HEARTFIRE PASSIONATE KISSES
DN05812804 (02-08)

SUMMERTIME ONE TOUGH TESTIMONY
DL74851702 (10-00)

HEARTFIRE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME
DN12601204 (01-07)

February 7th, 2022

In re: 22-83 (Joanna Norman)

To the Members of the Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board:

This is Joanna Norman, DVM, Diplomate of the College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (DACVO) submitting my response to Case 22-83. I have been practicing veterinary medicine for twenty years and ophthalmology solely for seventeen years. I take my job as an animal advocate and educator to my clients and the next generation of veterinarians very seriously. I have never had a complaint against me and was shocked when I received the damning letter from someone I have never met.

I examined a six-week-old Blue Merle male puppy once on April 29th, 2021, for a Companion Animal Eye Registry exam (CAER exam) to be registered with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). The scope of these screening exams is to evaluate for gross structural abnormalities. This is akin to a snapshot – a moment in time. Breeders of any breed are encouraged to have breeding dogs and puppies examined. Certainly, there is a high incidence of genetic eye abnormalities in the Australian Shepherd and any dog carrying the merle gene. The pup in this case had no tattoo or microchip and was one of several merle males and females examined that day. Other litters with the similar merle markings were evaluated within weeks of each other. The only finding was 'Iris to Iris Persistent Pupillary Membranes' in both eyes. These are vascular remnants secondary to incomplete resorption of the lenticular vasculature. The puppy had the mildest form where these strands are connected solely to Iris tissue. To date, this is not a 'fail' from OFA but rather a 'pass' with a breeder option (to breed). The remainder of the exam was normal.

The eye of the dog and the retina specifically does not finish fully developing until several months of age. Again, the OFA eye exam is a snapshot in time and certainly does not guarantee against future changes. Some genetic conditions are congenital, meaning present at birth. Other genetic conditions occur later in development or even as an adult. To be fair we still can't be fully certain this was genetic in nature. Was he transported in the air- with or without human supervision? Was there an unwitnessed trauma? The dog was adopted by Ms. Valle (according to her notes) on June 8th, 2021, almost another six weeks after my exam at just six weeks of age. The dog was then not seen by an ophthalmologist again until November 16th, 2021. For any ophthalmic or neurologic condition, this is quite a bit of time. Over six months had passed from when I examined a puppy to when Toby was seen by Dr. Venturi. Medical and surgical management of retinal disease may be successful if implemented within weeks – not months of- disease. I'm not clear why she waited so long to have Toby examined.

Regardless, immediately after receiving the certified letter by Ms. Valle, I called my colleague, Francesca Venturi, DVM, DACVO who examined "Toby." She admits regretting using the

language 'likely congenital' as she was not aware the puppy had been examined by an ophthalmologist before. I acknowledged that genetic disease is likely given the breed, but the retinas were normal at six weeks so specifically congenital wasn't the case.

Dr. Venturi was kind enough to call Ms. Valle to further discuss anatomy and development of the eye and remind her that Toby wasn't painful. Her discussion of the recommendation for future evaluations was to treat inflammation or glaucoma IF present down the road. She mentioned that Ms. Valle would not listen to or accept that these retinal changes could have developed after that OFA exam. As is stated correctly on the OFA website, many ocular conditions do not develop until later in life. She also complained that the hips were 'loose' and the testes had not descended. For all these reasons and her contract in which the breeder guaranteed against such flaws, her money for the dog was refunded by the breeder. Dr. Venturi also explained with difference with the scope of an OFA screening exam and her more in-depth exam once a problem had been perceived. Dr. Venturi suggested that Dr. Jacob's (primary care DVM in California) notes demonstrated a PLR and partial vision in at least one eye. With that, things were clearly dynamic as the dog was functionally blind at the time of Dr. Venturi's examination. Again, this examination was on November 16, 2021, almost 7 months after the one and only time that I saw the dog.

Regarding the witnesses, Julie Humeston, the breeder has brought many litters to my clinic for evaluation. As Ms. Valle noted, Julie has evidently been breeding dogs for years and undoubtedly understands PPMs may spontaneously regress and that other changes may become apparent in time. I always discuss any findings and all clients are reminded that these OFA exams 'expire' after one year and are to be repeated at least annually. This is also clearly stated on the OFA/CAER website. Julie and I discussed the PPMs with each of her dogs presenting with such over several litters. The standard of care of the exam was achieved as there is no minimum age as to examine puppies as long as the eyes are open. All puppies were evaluated before and following pupillary dilation.

Erika Werne, the CAER Program Director, is not a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine nor a Board-Certified Ophthalmologist. With that, her statement to Ms. Valle was unfortunately inaccurate. The OFA eye exam is NOT technically an assessment of vision. It is an assessment of gross structure. There is no neuro-ophthalmic examination or maze testing, for example. I called Ms. Werne personally to caution her against providing inaccurate medical information to people and she immediately apologized. I believe now she has an appropriate understanding of the scope of the OFA eye exam.

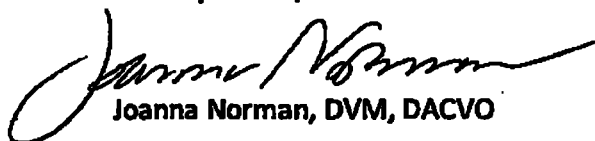
Others have communicated with Ms. Valle directly despite her suggesting she has had no response. Debra Warren, CVT fielded her call to Eye Care in Avondale when she called irate and asking questions about PPMs causing retinal detachment. Deb has worked in ophthalmology for over 20 years and is a knowledgeable breeder herself. Since I don't have a client-patient-veterinarian relationship with Ms. Valle, Deb calmly tried to relay some about normal anatomy and development along with the puppy's findings with no evidence of retinal

disease on that date. When the letter was received by administration, Joe Rath, CPVM, Regional Operations Manager for Pathway/Eye Care for Animals, arranged a phone call with Ms. Valle. We have a recorded voice mail on record of Ms. Valle cancelling this conference call with Joe after she admits speaking with Dr. Venturi. To say there has been silence is simply not true.

As an advocate for animals, I am disappointed that Ms. Valle euthanized her puppy. In twenty years as a practicing veterinarian, I have never heard of a dog 'breaking their neck' as she stated associated with vision impairment. In fact, dogs who have vision impairment from an early age tend to adjust well and are brave, complete, and devoted companions. I work with many blind and deaf Australian Shepherds and there are rescues devoted solely to them. He could have easily been rehomed.

Finally, I find Ms. Valle's words in her letter sent to me (and management, ACVO, and CAER/OFA) extremely offensive. "I cannot help but believe my own life's longevity has been shortened without Toby in my life. Dr. Norman's actions have resulted in a cruel outcome for my beautiful, loving Toby and deep heartbreak for me." For some reason Ms. Valle cannot understand or accept that biological systems are not static. The detachments were not present at six weeks of age, or I would have detected them.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanna Norman', with a stylized, flowing script.

Joanna Norman, DVM, DACVO

Member, Medical Quality Board of Eye Care for Animals

Adjunct Professor College of Veterinary Medicine-Midwestern University

Douglas A. Ducey
- Governor -



Victoria Whitmore
- Executive Director -

ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

1740 W. Adams Street, Ste. 4600, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Phone (602) 364-1-PET (1738) * FAX (602) 364-1039

vetboard.az.gov

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board

FROM: PM Investigative Committee: Adam Almaraz - Chair

Amrit Rai, DVM

Steven Dow, DVM

Gregg Maura

Justin McCormick, DVM - **Absent**

STAFF PRESENT: Tracy A. Riendeau, CVT – Investigations

Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General

RE: Case: 22-83

Complainant(s): Christine Valle

Respondent(s): Joanna Norma, DVM (License: 4286)

SUMMARY:

Complaint Received at Board Office: 1/24/22

Committee Discussion: 6/7/22

Board IIR: 7/20/22

APPLICABLE STATUTES AND RULES:

Laws as Amended August 2018

(Lime Green); Rules as Revised

September 2013 (Yellow)

On April 29, 2021, "Toby," a 6-week-old male Australian Shepherd was presented to Respondent for a Companion Animal Eye Registry exam to be registered with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals.

The puppy was adopted by Complainant. The puppy was examined by her primary care veterinarian in May and June 2021 with no concerns with the dog's vision.

On October 8, 2021, the dog was presented to the primary care veterinarian to be neutered and check vision. Dr. Jacobs noted that pupillary light response in the left eye appeared to be slow if not absent, however the right eye appeared to be normal. Referral to an ophthalmologist was made.

On November 16, 2021, the dog was presented to Eye Care For Animals for evaluation. It was determined that the dog did not appear to be visual in either eye.

On December 7, 2021, Complainant humanely euthanized the dog.

Complainant was noticed and appeared telephonically.

Respondent was noticed and appeared telephonically. Attorney David Stoll was present.

The Committee reviewed medical records, testimony, and other documentation as described below:

- Complainant(s) narrative: Christine Valley
- Respondent(s) narrative/medical record: Joanna Norman, DVM
- Consulting Veterinarian(s) narrative/medical records: Scott Jacobs, DVM – Primary Care Veterinarian; Francesca Venturi, DVM – Eye Care For Animals.

PROPOSED 'FINDINGS of FACT':

1. On April 29, 2021, the puppy was presented to Respondent by breeder Julie Humeston for a Companion Animal Eye Registry exam (CAER) to be registered with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). Respondent explained that the scope of these screening exams is to evaluate for gross structural abnormalities – akin to a snapshot – a moment in time. Her exam finding was 'Iris to Iris Persistent Pupillary Membranes' in both eyes. These are vascular remnants secondary to incomplete resorption of the lenticular vasculature. The puppy had the mildest form where these strands are connected solely to iris tissue. Respondent stated that this finding is not a "fail" from OFA but rather a "pass" with a breeder option to breed. The remainder of the exam was normal.

2. Respondent further explained that the eye of the dog and the retina specifically does not finish fully developing until several months of age. The OFA exam does not guarantee against future changes. Some genetic conditions are congenital and others occur later in development of even as an adult.

3. Respondent stated that the detachments were not present when she evaluated the dog at 6 weeks of age, or she would have detected them.

4. Complainant stated she adopted the puppy on June 8, 2021 and was provided a copy of Respondent's exam to satisfy the sales contract guarantee of the puppy's vision. However, the contract provided is difficult to read but appears to be dated April 30, 2021 as the date of adoption. Additionally, the dog was seen in May 2021 by the primary care veterinarian therefore the adoption most likely did not take place June 8th as Complainant reported.

5. On May 3, 2021, Monday, the dog was presented to Dr. Jacobs at Fletcher Hills Animal Hospital, Complainant's primary care veterinarian. Complainant reported that she had obtained the dog on Saturday (May 1st) - no concerns were voiced by Complainant with respect to the dog's vision. The dog was examined; Dr. Jacobs documented that he could only palpate one testicle – all else was within normal limits – eyes appeared normal at that time.

6. On June 10, 2021, the puppy was presented to Dr. Jacobs due to vomiting and lethargy. The dog was examined and no abnormalities were identified except for testicles not being

descended. Abdominal radiographs were performed which revealed stool in colon and some food material in the small intestine – no obvious foreign body or obstructive gas patterns. No concern with the dog's vision was noted by Complainant or Dr. Jacobs.

7. On October 8, 2021, the dog was dropped off to be neutered by Dr. Jacobs. At that time, Complainant expressed concern that the dog appeared to be having trouble seeing. Dr. Jacobs examined the dog; he was right lateral cryptorchid and it was thought that his right testicle was palpable in the right inguinal area. Dr. Jacobs also noted that there was no anisocoria but the pupillary light response (PLR) in the left eye appeared to be slow if not absent – the right PLR, both direct and consensual appeared normal. He could not perform a directed or indirect fundic exam on the dog since he was resistant and uncooperative. Dr. Jacobs called Complainant with his findings and suggested she consult with a veterinary ophthalmologist before proceeding with the neuter as it was possible that the dog could have coloboma, detached retina, PRA, or another disorder. Complainant elected to proceed with the neuter and follow up with a veterinary ophthalmologist at a later date.

8. Later that day, Complainant called Eye Care For Animals requesting an eye exam for the dog, stating the dog was blind in one eye, possibly since birth. An appointment was made for November 16, 2021.

9. On November 16, 2021, Dr. Venturi at Eye Care For Animals in San Diego, California, evaluated the dog. Based on her exam the dog did not appear to be visual in either eye. She wrote a letter with respect to her findings of the dog and used the wording "likely congenital." At the time, Dr. Venturi did not have Dr. Jacobs's findings that indicated the dog still had some vision in the right eye which suggested that the dog's blindness was not congenital. Dr. Venturi was also unaware of Respondent's OFA exam on the puppy prior to being sold to Complainant.

10. On December 7, 2021, the dog was presented to Dr. Jacobs for humane euthanasia. Complainant stated that she would be unable to train him since he was blind. She reported in her narrative that the dog was running into things causing injury to himself. Dr. Jacobs offered to take the dog to the humane society – Complainant declined as she was worried that no one would be able to care for him and was conflicted about the dog's uncertain future. Dr. Jacobs complied with Complainant's wishes and humanely euthanized the dog.

11. On January 14, 2022, Dr. Venturi reached out to Complainant to discuss anatomy and development of the eye after receiving a letter from Complainant with questions regarding the OFA eye exam. Complainant would not listen or accept that these retinal changes could have developed after the OFA exam.

12. Complainant expressed concerns that Respondent did not recommend follow up exam for the dog. Complainant also expressed concerns that she reached out to corporate headquarters for Eye Care For Animals and received no response.

13. Respondent stated that others had communicated with Complainant despite her suggesting that she had no response. CVT Warren discussed her concerns regarding PPMs causing retinal detachment. Additionally, Regional Operations Manager for Pathways/Eye Care For Animals arranged a phone call with Complainant. Complainant cancelled the conference call after admitting she spoke with Dr. Venturi.

14. The breeder refunded Complainant's money for the dog as there was a guarantee in the contract with respect to the flaws the dog exhibited.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:

The Committee discussed that Complainant was likely confused. Retinal detachment was not present at the time of Respondent's exam. This occurred later in the dog's life. Respondent had no control of what transpired after her exam.

COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED CONCLUSIONS of LAW:

The Committee concluded that no violations of the Veterinary Practice Act occurred.

COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION:

Motion: It was moved and seconded the Board:

Dismiss this issue with no violation.

Vote: The motion was approved with a vote of 4 to 0.

The information contained in this report was obtained from the case file, which includes the complaint, the respondent's response, any consulting veterinarian or witness input, and any other sources used to gather information for the investigation.

TR

Tracy A. Riendeau, CVT
Investigative Division